

Ducks sweep
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Democrats dominate House votes overriding vetoes on several bills

By Shawn Wirtz
Of the Emerald

The Legislature voted to override several bills Thursday that former Gov. Vic Atiyeh had vetoed during his term in office.

"Hold onto your socks, kids," Rep. Dick Springer, D-Portland, warned a group of representatives. While five bills

A bill that would have allowed employees transferring between school districts, community colleges and education districts to transfer unused sick leave, HB 2161, was referred to Legislative Rules, Operations and Reform in a vote split along party lines, 31-29.

House Minority Leader Larry Campbell, R-Eugene, asked for a caucus, but Assistant Majority Leader Ron Eachus, D-Eugene, called for a motion to close debate and denied Campbell the opportunity to meet with Republicans.

In defiance, Campbell made a thumbs down motion, angering some Democrats.

"He shouldn't have stood up and given this thumbs up-thumbs down bullshit," said Tom Mason, D-Portland.

However, Eachus admitted he

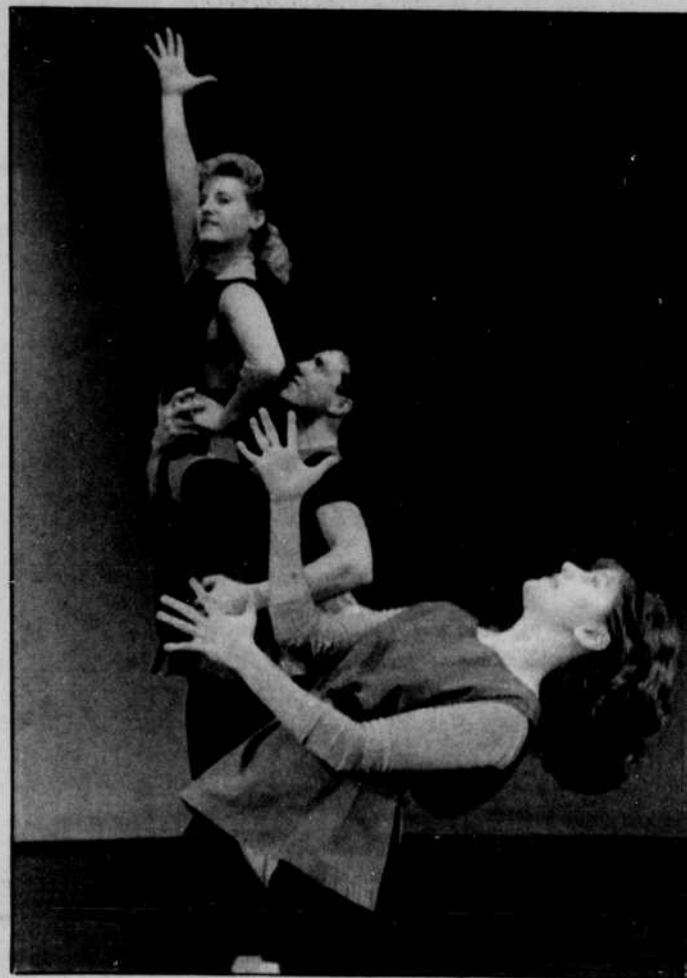
made a procedural mistake. "I should have allowed them the courtesy. I was just trying to close debate, not trying to prevent them from caucusing," he said.

The Oregon Education Association had lobbied hard for the passage of the bill last session. "Everybody courts OEA's support," Eachus said. "The Republicans were trying to do a favor for OEA."

The OEA sent Democrats "mixed signals" as to whether it wanted the House to pass the original bill or introduce a new one, Eachus said. "So we bought a day's worth of time to find out what OEA wants."

House Bill 2285, which would have increased caps on tort liability awards, failed with 35 yes votes to 25 no votes.

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Poetry in motion

"Dance '87" performers make a statement through dance and dialogue in the annual "Dance Oregon!" winter concert, a program directed by University professor Janet Descutner. "The dialogue may come as a surprise to some in the audience," she said.

Above, from left, dancers Julie Weinstein, Richard Steffensen and Denise Barsby make themselves heard. The performances start tonight and continue through this weekend and Jan. 29-31 and Feb. 6-7.

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Photo by Derrel Hewitt

Legislature to review arts funding proposal

By Laurie Schwartz
Of the Emerald

Members of local arts organizations are keeping their fingers crossed while waiting for the state Legislature to review on Monday Gov. Neil Goldschmidt's proposal to increase state funding for the arts by 250 percent.

Lobbyist Pat McCormick urged about 60 arts administrators and enthusiasts at a meeting in Eugene Thursday night to contact their legislators.

Under the proposal, the Eugene Ballet could receive a tenfold increase in state funding, and the Bach Festival could see a fourfold increase.

Goldschmidt's proposed state budget includes a new \$2.5 million package of grant money for each two-year period. The grants must be matched by private donations.

The largest component of the

package is the Oregon Arts Challenge, which would earmark \$1.6 million for large-budget non-profit arts organizations like the Eugene Ballet and the Eugene Symphony.

The general consensus among those in the arts is that the additional funding is much-needed and long overdue.

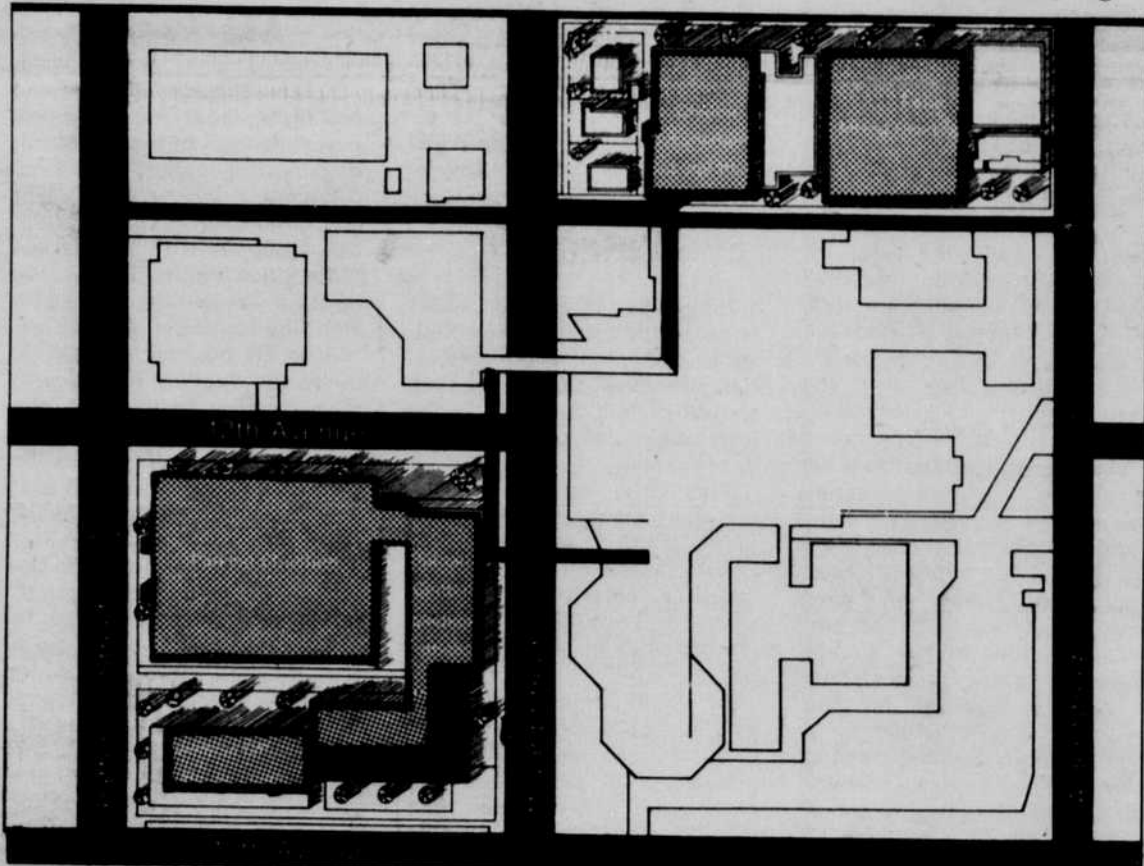
Finances are "always a struggle with non-profit arts organizations," said Don Anderson of the Eugene Ballet. "The artists are never paid what they're really worth. The staff is never paid what they're really worth. There's a constant need for fund-raising that extends throughout the year."

The Oregon Arts Challenge could, if passed, relieve the ballet's constant scramble for funds and could take some of the pressure off private donors.

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sailed smoothly through the Senate with the required two-thirds majority, partisan politics sent two House bills down in defeat and passed only three.



Courtesy of Sacred Heart General Hospital

Sacred Heart will spend millions in three-year expansion program

By Jolayne Houtz
Of the Emerald

Sacred Heart General Hospital officials plan to spend at least \$15 million in the next three years to expand their facilities by building a seven-story parking structure, a new outpatient facility and several other buildings.

The project will include an 800-space parking garage with two levels below ground and an outpatient and medical office building. The complex of buildings will be connected with a series of skybridges, said hospital spokesman Alan Yordy.

The skybridges also will connect the central hospital to the Oregon Consolidated Laboratories building currently under construction on 11th

Avenue.

The \$3 million lab is scheduled for completion in June when construction will begin on the parking garage on the corner of 12th Avenue and Patterson Street, which Yordy said will take about one year to complete and will cost between \$5 million and \$6 million.

The outpatient/medical office building will be constructed next to the parking garage and across from the existing hospital. The structure should be completed by 1990 and may cost up to \$9 million, he said.

"Our ultimate goal is that once you enter the

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